

HARRY

(To KATHLEEN)

Like we planned, the three of us met later at the Utopia Restaurant. Irwin and Laura had a really nice time at the dance. We sat there and felt smug and laughed a lot. Irwin polished off three Pepsis. She and I had Pina Coladas. We toasted many things.

(IRWIN and LAURA raise their cups)

Mostly, "that life was fair after all."

IRWIN

She's one in a million, Harry. I wish you could have been there. What a time we had. All state running back Mickey Rigoso strolls by. Here's a person who never said anything to me except 'What's the answer to number three?'. All of a sudden we're buddies. He wants to meet my date. Anybody can see that. She gives him not even a look... Tonight has nothing to do with night, Harry. It was a noon shoot out if there ever was one. All over the world bullies are thinking twice. And timid guys speak eloquently to beautiful women.

(To LAURA)

"Deep into the darkness peering; Long I stood there wondering, fearing. Doubting, dreaming dreams no mortal ever dared to dream before." Poe.

HARRY

(To KATHLEEN)

We had a fabulous evening.

IRWIN

(To LAURA)

I guess it's time.

LAURA

I suppose.

(To HARRY)

Good night, Harry.

HARRY

Good night, Laura.

IRWIN

(To HARRY)

See ya' pal.

(IRWIN and LAURA walk over to the door)

IRWIN

Laura, sometimes at the end of a nice evening there's this spontaneous, anticipated ritual known as-

LAURA

The good night kiss.

IRWIN

You've heard of it.

LAURA

I believe I have.

IRWIN

Well, ah, so far I have survived the equivalent of parachuting into high tension wires... Could be months, maybe years before the last of your perfume goes away. I'm about as high as I dare go.

(SHE kisses HIM. HARRY watches THEM for a moment, then turns away. Finally, LAURA and IRWIN separate, turn and walk off, arms around each other)

IRWIN

Could I interest you in a family heirloom that was once in the ground for millions of years? So Mom's still wearing it. I'll hack it off her finger.

(They exit. A beat. LAURA reappears)

LAURA

You have style, Harry Baldwin. You have panache.

(SHE exits. Lights back up)

KATHLEEN

Thank you for sharing that. It's a lovely story. It is civilized behavior. It is kindness. But it is not what you think. It is...

HARRY

Not panache.

KATHLEEN

I'm afraid not...in the classical sense.

HARRY

I see. But you and your husband once got into period costumes, went to a fancy party and that makes you an authority.